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Cultural Affairs Committee

3-28-2001

James McBride Visit

University of Maine

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THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS/ DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES COMMITTEE GRANT APPLICATION

PROVIDE 10 (TEN) COPIES, INCLUDING THE ORIGINAL.
PLEASE PLACE A COPY OF THIS COVER SHEET ON TOP OF EACH COPY

I. Applicant/Organization: Faculty Senate

II. a. Responsible Organization Officer: Harvey Kail

b. Title: Associate Professor

c. Campus Address (include EMail and Telephone): First-class & 581-3829

III. Summary of program requiring funding (title; featured artist(s); speaker(s); scheduled date (s):

CLASS BOOK AUTHOR PRESENTATION

The author of this year's University of Maine class book, James McBride, has agreed to come to campus for a one day visit, March 28, 2001. His memoir of growing up in a large, mixed-race family, *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother*, tells the poignant and powerful story of his mother's fierce determination to bring her twelve children through poverty and racism to claim a viable place in middle-class American society. This is the story of a unique American family, told with humor and tenderness and an unflinching candor.

James McBride will give a public presentation at 4:00 P.M., March 28, 2001, in the largest appropriate lecture hall available. He has also indicated his willingness to meet with faculty teaching the class book and with students on an informal basis in the course of his campus visit.

Expand in fuller detail, a supporting statement with detailed, itemized budget. Funding for current application is contingent upon submission of detailed budget and attendance report for any previous years' grants.

IV. a. Total funding required for program:	> 9,450
b. Amount committed by applicant organization:	> 250
c. Amount committed by/requested of (please indicate which) other funding sources:	> 2,000
d. Amount requested of Cultural Affairs/DLS Committee:	> 7,200

Signature of responsible organization officer/date: _____

SIGNATURE

9.28.00

DATE

SPACE BELOW FOR COMMITTEE USE:

\$4,725

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATION TO: CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
C/O PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
200 ALUMNI HALL

Class Book Author James McBride

The author of this year's University of Maine class book, James McBride, has agreed to come to campus for a one day visit, March 28, 2001. His memoir of growing up in a large, mixed-race family, *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother*, tells the poignant and powerful story of his mother's fierce determination to bring her twelve children through poverty and racism to claim a viable place in middle-class American society. In this meditation on race and identity, McBride explores his mother's mysterious (to him) past--she was born into a Jewish family in Poland and emigrated to the United States when she was four--as well as his own upbringing in the Red Hook projects of Brooklyn and his heritage as the son of a black minister and a white mother. This year's class book is the story of a unique American family, told with humor and tenderness and an unflinching candor.

James McBride is a graduate of Oberlin College and Columbia School of Journalism. He holds an honorary doctorate in humane letters from Whitman College and is the winner of the 1997 Anisfield Wolf Book Award. A former staff writer for *The Boston Globe*, *People Magazine*, and *The Washington Post*, he has also contributed articles to *Rolling Stone*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, and *The New York Times*. In addition to his career as a writer, James McBride is also an award winning composer and saxophonist. He has received several awards for his work in musical theater composition, including the 1996 ASCAP Richard Rodgers Horizon Award, the 1993 Stephen Sondheim Award and the 1996 American Arts and Letters Richard Rodgers Development Award. In his latest book he combines his talents as author and musician to collaborate with Quincy Jones on *Q: The Autobiography of Quincy Jones*, due out this winter.

The class book this year will be taught in most if not all divisions of English 101, in Honors 101, in an interdisciplinary course, INT 292, as well as in other courses around the campus. The Life Long Learning Division also plans to sponsor a non-credit community course on the class book in Portland, Camden, and Orono. A web site on this year's class book has been constructed to provide a starting point for further research (<http://libraries.maine.edu/oronoclass/Johnson/water.htm>), and an electronic conference has been established on the First Class conference system (look under "Semester Courses") to facilitate campus-wide discussion. A video series of related movies has been scheduled for closed-circuit viewing in the residence halls. All this provides us with an unusually organized opportunity for university-wide dialogue on the difficult issues of race, religion, and identity in contemporary American life. Bringing James McBride to campus will help enormously to focus and develop that conversation.

James McBride will give a public presentation at 4:00 P.M., March 28, 2001, in the largest appropriate lecture hall available. He has also indicated his willingness to meet with faculty teaching the class book and with students on an informal basis in the course of his campus visit.

Detailed budget for class book author visit:

Fee for Mr. McBride	\$7500
Airfare (from Italy and return)	725
Lodging at Black Bear Inn (two nights)	100
Food for Mr McBride	75
Room rental fee	100
Publicity	950

Total expenses \$9,450

Amount requested from other sources:

Academic Affairs	250
Lloyd H. Elliott Fund	2,000

Cultural Affairs Committee
including the
Distinguished Lecture Series
200 Alumni Hall
University of Maine

October 16, 2000

To: Harvey Kail

From: Kathleen March & François Amar, Co-Chairs

On behalf of the Cultural Affairs Committee, including the Distinguished Lecture Series, it gives me great pleasure to inform you that your proposal, Class Book, has been awarded \$4,725.00. **Please contact Wanda Legere at 1-1516 before your event takes place to arrange for disbursement of award funds.** Reception expenses, however, are not reimbursable through this award.

Please note that acknowledgment of the *Cultural Affairs Committee* is required on all promotional materials. **A budget report must be submitted at the conclusion of your event and will be considered for future funding requests.** It is assumed that projects are completed within 12 months, therefore, any remaining balance will be returned to the Committee account for further distribution unless otherwise notified.

The Committee notes that it does not fund more than 50% of the amount for any given program. It also asks applicants to consider the most reasonable honoraria possible, as there may not be funding for the higher amounts.

We, the members of the Cultural Affairs Committee, congratulate you and wish you much success on this project.